

**REMARKS**

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

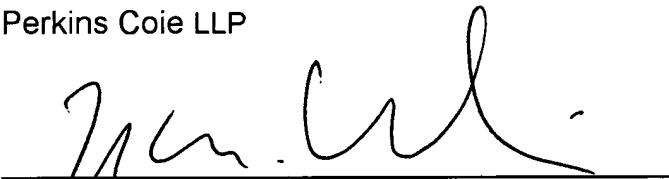
I. Claims 17-36, drawn to an apparatus for processing a microelectronic workpiece in a process chamber; and

II. Claims 37-44, drawn to a method for processing a microelectronic workpiece.

In response, the applicants elect Group I, claims 17-36 without traverse. Non-elected claims 37-44 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuation, divisional or other application.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

  
John M. Wechkin  
Registration No. 42,216

Date: March 29, 2004

**Correspondence Address:**

Customer No. 25096  
Perkins Coie LLP  
P.O. Box 1247  
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247  
(206) 359-8000